

The LongPath

A North Alabama DX Club Publication

Special points of interest:

- From the President
- February Program
- Budget Proposal
- Meeting Minutes
- DX Contests
- Programs Please

From the President

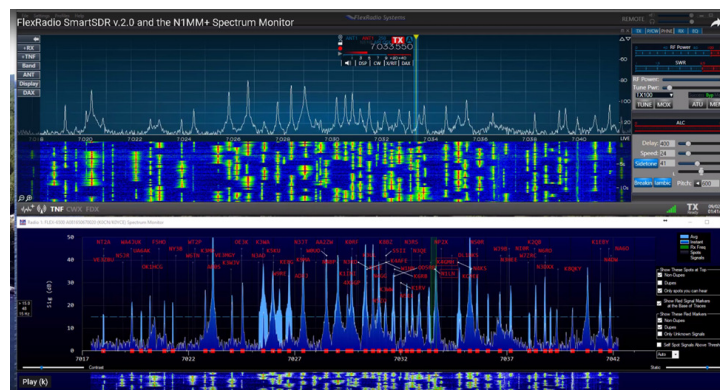
It has dawned on me that January is the time for membership drives, so here I am a month late reminding all that it's time to join up for another year and see if we can find some good DXpeditions to support. Dues explanations are on our web page, www.nadxc.org, and we have PayPal available if you'd prefer. If you'd rather mail a check, our Treasurer is Chris, AI4U.

I've experienced better years for DXpeditions. The Bouvet trip failed to go again this year. XX9D/Macao will have 14 ops and will start in a few days. I understand they even plan to bring antennas this time. I don't have Macao, so you better turn your amp up higher than mine.

We all have our favorite way of operating. I've tried to maximize my results by integrating as many processes as possible via my computer. My Flex Radio system does the best job I've found integrating its software with all the third parties

that I normally use. Well, N1MM+ has just introduced a spectrum display similar to the Flex, now complete with call signs. I'm impressed. I recommend you take a look. Here's a screen shot of my Flex at top, and N1MM+ below.

N1MM+ introduced the Telnet connection first, then its bandmap. Recently the Flex 2.0 software enabled synchronized spots on their spectrum monitor. Now N1MM+ counters with their own spectrum display showing call signs above the signals. This is all independent of the transmit mode you are using, and if I'm running, more ops can see me. S&P contesting now takes on a whole new perspective. In the shot above, I've told the software to not show all spots, but only those I can hear. I'm anxious to hear W5WQQ connect to his Flex remotely



How to Join

- * Come to a club meeting;
- * or send in an application by mail (form on www.NADXC.org)
- * or call Tom Duncan at (256)705-2147

Best Practices Grounding for Lightning Protection: Why it Works

By Dr. Monte Bateman, WB5ZRX, Thunderstorm Physicist

Thunderstorms are often on the heels of the wide temperature swings we'll be seeing as we get into spring. Short of keeping all your equipment in the boxes it came in, what can you do to lower the risk of severe lightning damage? Hear MSFC thunderstorm physicist WB5ZRX with some grounding pointers. Get to Newk's a little before 6:00 for dinner and the business meeting, and, 6:30 for the program.



2019 Proposed Budget

By Chris Reed, AI4U, NADXC Secretary/Treasurer

		Budgeted	Budgeted	Projected	2018 Actual
Item	Description	Income	Expense	Bank Balance	
	Current Bank Account Balance 1/1/18	\$ 9,160.09		\$ 9,160.09	\$ 9,160.09
1	Projected Dues receipts (est. 60 members @ \$15 each)	\$ 900.00		\$ 10,060.09	\$ 898.65
2	Repeater Power Bill (Janet Richardson)		\$ (80.00)	\$ 9,980.09	\$ (80.00)
3	Repeater maintenance		\$ (100.00)	\$ 9,880.09	\$ -
4	Annual Web Hosting & Domain Service		\$ (72.72)	\$ 9,807.37	\$ (72.72)
5	DX Expedition Sponsorship		\$ (400.00)	\$ 9,407.37	\$ -
6	Young Ham of the Year Plaque		\$ (55.00)	\$ 9,352.37	\$ (52.31)
7	Annual DX Club Banquet Receipts	\$ 3,990.00		\$ 13,342.37	\$ 3,654.43
8	Annual DX Club Banquet Expenses - venue & meal		\$ (3,500.00)	\$ 9,842.37	\$
9	Hamfest Banquet Door Prizes		\$ (400.00)	\$ 9,442.37	\$ -
10	DX Banquet Speaker Expenses		\$ (600.00)	\$ 8,842.37	\$ (627.34)
11	Matching member gifts - ARRL Spectrum Defense Fund		\$ (100.00)	\$ 8,742.37	\$ -
12	Annual Club Picnic (picnic supplies)		\$ (25.00)	\$ 8,717.37	\$ -
13	Plaque, Dxer of the year		\$ (55.00)	\$ 8,662.37	\$ (52.31)
14	Speaker Fund		\$ (50.00)	\$ 8,612.37	\$ (17.75)
15	Incorporation*		\$ -	\$ 8,612.37	\$ -
16	Name Reservation with AL Secretary of State		\$ (28.00)	\$ 8,584.37	\$ (28.00)
17	QSL Service		\$ (20.00)	\$ 8,564.37	\$ -
18	DX Honor Roll Plaque Refurbishment		\$ (30.00)	\$ 8,534.37	\$ (155.31)
	Summary	\$ 14,050.09	\$ (5,515.72)	\$ 8,534.37	
	Net Difference in Bank Balance			\$ (625.72)	

See notes on p. 3

January Meeting Minutes

By Chris Reed, AI4U, NADXC Secretary/Treasurer

Attendance

Members 19 & guests 2

Review of Sign-in Sheet & DX worked

Fred AE4ED TZ, 5B, VU, A4, S0

Bob K8KI DV3 Philippines, TZ4
Mali

Walt AJ6T OD on 40m FT8

Steve KY4G T77C

Announcements

Bob, K8KI spoke about the new rule for the ARRL RTTY contest regarding entry class.

NAQP CW is this weekend.

Bob, K8KI mentioned support of DXpeditions this year. Which one is yet to be determined.

Steve, AG4W checked cards for John, N5DF. He is now #1 in the Honor Roll after 55 years active.

VP6D Ducie is coming up.

Kelley, W4VPZ provided 2018 Financial Report. The club has \$5,000 more due to N4KG estate.

Tom, KG4CUY, A round of applause was given to Kelley in appreciation for all her work for the club including the banquet held hamfest weekend.

Stephen, KY4G is still accepting QSL cards to bundle and send to ARRL bureau.

Program was given by Bob, K8KI "A poor man's TDR"

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance	\$ 9160.09
No expenses	
Ending Balance	\$ 9160.09
Outstanding deposits	\$310.88

NADXC Officers and Directors

President	Bob De Pierre, K8KI
Vice President	Warren Alford, K4MMW
Secretary/	Chris Reed, AI4U
Treasurer	
At-large	Kevin Hibbs, KG4TEI
Directors	Tom Duncan, KG4CUY

Budget Notes

(cont'd from p. 2)

NOTES

	*Donation of \$200 to the club earmarked for	
	incorporation expenses	\$0.00
	domain name paid 1/2018	-\$13.32
	**plus \$60 cash from N4KG estate sales not deposited	60

***memberships Paypal account 142.40 not yet deposited	142.4
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***memberships Checks/Cash 121.80 not yet deposited	121.8
Total	310.88

Cont'd on p. 5

DX Contests for February

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

CQWW RTTY WPX Contest, (RTTY), 80-10 meters

Feb 9, 0000Z to Feb 10, 2400Z

Exchange: RST & Serial No.

See page 89, Feb. QST and www.cqwprrtty.com/rules.htm

Asia-Pacific Sprint, (CW), 40 & 20 meters

Feb 9, 1100Z to Feb 9, 1300Z

Exchange: RST & serial #

See page 89, Feb. QST and www.jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt

ARRL Intl. DX Contest, (CW), 160-10 meters

Feb 16, 0000Z to Feb 17, 2359Z

Exchange: RST plus State/Province; DX send RST plus pwr.

See page 89, Feb. QST and www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

CQ 160 Meter Contest (PH), 160 meters

Feb 22, 2200Z to Feb 24, 2200Z

Exchange: RS plus State/Province/ CQ zone

See page 89, Feb. QST and www.CQ160.com/rules.htm

REF French Contest (PH), 80-10 meters

Feb 23, 0600Z to Feb 24, 1800Z

Exchange: RS plus Serial No.; F stns.

send Dept.

See page 89, Feb. QST and www.concourse.r-e-f.org/contest/

UBA (Belgium) Contest (CW), 80-10 meters

Feb 23, 1300Z to Feb. 24, 1300Z

Exchange: RST plus Serial No.; ON stns. send province

See page 89, Feb. QST and www.uba.be/en

ARRL Intl. DX Contest, (PHONE), 160-10 meters

Mar 2, 0000Z to Mar 3, 2400Z

Exchange: RS plus State/Province; DX send RS plus pwr

See www.arrl.org/arrl-dx

Stew Perry Topband Challenge, (CW), 160 meters

Mar 9, 1500Z to Mar 10, 1500Z

Exchange: 4 Character Grid Square

See www.kkn.net/stew

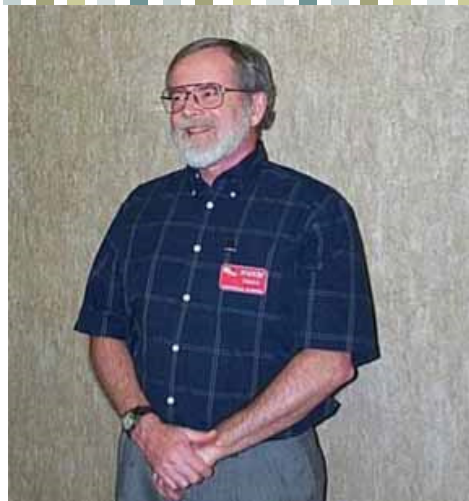
Other contests:

KCJ Topband Contest, CW,

1200Z, Feb 9 - 2400Z, Feb 10

Balkan HF contest, CW/SSB, 1200Z,

Feb 10 - 1800Z, Feb 10



Russian PSK WW contest, DIG,
1200Z, Feb 16 - 1159Z, Feb 17

UBA DX Contest, CW,
0700Z, Feb 23 - 1100Z, Feb 24

SARL Digital Contest, DIG,
1300Z Feb 24 - 1600Z, Feb 24

UBA Spring Contest, CW,
0700Z -1100Z, Mar 3
Dates & times often change or are mis-
printed in the journals; beware.

Chuck, N4NM

Programs Please The LongPath Staff

We thank those of you reading this column who have given NADXC programs in the past. It is safe to say that even if you thought you might die of fright addressing our august assembly, you didn't. We hope this serves as a lesson to those who haven't given a program recently.

Let's debunk a few myths: 1) "I'm no Cicero". Few of us are, but you'd be surprised how you can "find your voice" talking about a subject of interest to everyone in the room. 2) "I'm not an

expert on whatever my program is about—who wants to listen to me?" You're more of an expert than the average man on the street, and in the Rocket City, that's saying something. We want to hear from you. 3) "I can give a program on topic A, but really everyone wants to hear about topic B." You'd be surprised how varied our interests are. We may not know we're interested until we hear your program. 4) "Somebody else already gave a program on something remotely related. Nobody wants

to hear the same stuff twice, and besides they'll be comparing my lousy program with the other program which was really good." Your view of this topic—even if it's identical to the other program, is unique.

So quit worrying. Sign up today. Our Vice President Warren, K4MMW, scours the known world for programs and he's waiting to hear from you now!

DX Contests for January, 2019

By Chuck Lewis, N4NM

YB DX Contest, (SSB), 80-10 meters

Jan 12, 0000Z to 2359Z

Exchange: RS plus serial number

See page 91, Jan QST and

www.ybdxcontest.com

DARC 10 Meter Contest, (CW/SSB), 10 meters

Jan 13, 0900Z to 1059Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus serial No., DOK code

See page 91, Jan QST and

www.darc.de

LZ Open Championship, (CW), 80 & 40 meters

Jan 18, 1800Z to 2200Z

Exchange: S.N. + last S.N. rcvd (6 digits total)

See page 91, Jan QST and

www.lzopen.com

HA DX Contest, (CW/SSB), 160-10 meters

Jan 19, 1200Z to Jan 20, 1200Z

Exchange: RST + S.N.

See page 91, Jan QST and www.hadx.com/HADX

CQWW 160 Meter Contest, (CW), 160 meters

Jan 25, 2200Z to Jan 27, 2200Z

Exchange: RST plus CQ zone

See page 91, Jan. QST and

www.cq160.com

REF French Contest, (CW), 80-10 meters

Jan 26, 0600Z to Jan 27, 1200Z

Exchange: RST plus serial no. (F stns. give Dept. ID)

See page 91, Jan. QST and

www.concours.r-e-f.org

BARTG RTTY Sprint, (DIG), 80 -10 meters

Jan 26, 1200Z to Jan 27 1200Z

Exchange: Serial no.

See: page 91 Jan. QST &

www.bartg.org.uk

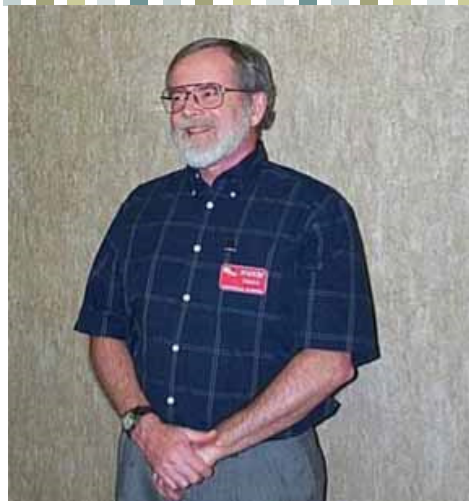
UBA (Belgium) Contest (SSB), 80-10 meters

Jan 26, 1300Z to Jan 27, 1300Z

Exchange: RS(T) plus serial no.; ON sends province

See page 91, Jan. QST and

www.uba.be/en



OTHERS:

Mexico RTTY Intl. Contest,

1200Z, Feb 3 to 2359Z, Feb 4

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Chuck, N4NM

NASA On-the-Air

(cont'd from p. 2)

The LongPath Staff

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Chuck Lewis, N4NM, DX Contests

Chris Reed, AI4U, Minutes

Bob De Pierre, K8KI, From the President